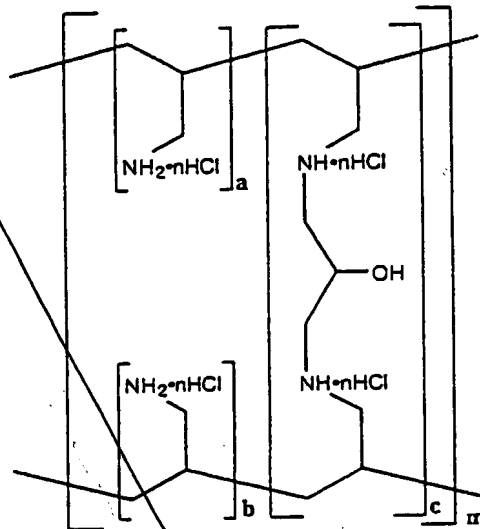


CLAIMS

1. A phosphate-binding polymer that is represented by the formula



[where the molar ratio of (a+b) to c is from 45:1 to 2:1 and m is an integer] and which has a true specific gravity of 1.18 - 1.24.

2. The phosphate-binding polymer according to claim 1 which has a true specific gravity of 1.20 - 1.22.
3. The phosphate-binding polymer according to claim 1, wherein the molar ratio of (a+b):c is from 20:1 to 4:1.
4. A tablet comprising the particles of a phosphate-binding polymer having an average particle size of no more than 400 μm , with at least 90% being occupied by particles no larger than 500 μm , and having a true specific gravity of 1.18 - 1.24 and a water content of 1 - 14%.
5. The tablet according to claim 4 which has a true specific gravity of 1.20 - 1.22.
6. The tablet according to claim 4, 5 or 6, wherein said

particles of a phosphate-binding polymer have an average particle size of no more than 250 μm , with at least 90% ~~being occupied by particles no larger than 300 μm .~~

7. The tablet according to any one of claims 1 - 6 which further contains crystalline cellulose and/or low ~~substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose.~~

8. The tablet according to claim 7, wherein the content of the crystalline cellulose and/or low substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose is at least 10 wt% of the weight of the phosphate-binding polymer.

Sub B4 9. The tablet according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the low substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose has 5.0 - 16.0 wt% substitution by hydroxypropoxyl groups.

10. The tablet according to any one of claims 4 - 9, wherein the phosphate-binding polymer is the one described in U.S. Patent No. 5496545.

11. The tablet according to any one of claims 3 - 9, wherein the phosphate-binding polymer is one that is obtained by allowing epichlorohydrin to act on polyallylamine in a water/acetonitrile mixed solvent system so that the polyallylamine is crosslinked.

12. The tablet according to any one of claims 4 - 11 which further contains a hardened oil.

13. The tablet according to any one of claims 4 - 12 which is coated on the surface with a water-soluble film base.

14. A process for producing phosphate-binding polymer tablets which comprises:

grinding a phosphate-binding polymer having a true

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specific gravity of 1.18 - 1.24 into particles having an average particle size of no more than 400 μm , with at least 90% being occupied by particles no larger than 500 μm , said phosphate-binding polymer being either polyallamine or obtained by crosslinking the same;

adjusting the phosphate-binding polymer particles to a water content of 1 - 14%;

mixing the particles with crystalline cellulose and/or low substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose; and

compressing the mixture into tablets.

15. The process according to claim 14, wherein said phosphate-binding polymer is ground into particles having an average particle size of no more than 250 μm , with at least 90% being occupied by particles no larger than 300 μm .

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